

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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APPROVED BY EUR: WJSTOESSEL, JR.

EUR/ NE: SGEORGE

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R 162103 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 049026

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR: DA

SUBJECT: U. S. DANISH RELATIONS

1. DANISH AMBASSADOR BARTELS CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL MARCH 15 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF POUR MEMOIRE PRESENTED TO DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH MARCH 9. BARTELS SAID PAST TWO MONTHS OF QUOTE COOL QUOTE U. S.- DANISH RELATIONS HAD BEEN BENEFICIAL IN ONE SENSE TO DANISH GOVERNMENT, SINCE IT HAD PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOD TO TAKE HARD LOOK AT CONDUCT OF DANISH FOREIGN RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR, AS A RESULT OF THIS REASSESSMENT, GOD WAS ABLE TO AGREE ON BROAD OUTLINE FOR ITS FUTURE FOREIGN POLICY. BARTELS SAID THAT FOLLOWING NUMEROUS COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN COPENHAGEN AND WASHINGTON EMBASSY -- WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS FREQUENTLY QUOTE HEATED QUOTE -- A QUOTE CODE OF CONDUCT QUOTE HAD BEEN HAMMERED OUT ACCORDING TO WHICH TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, SENIOR GOD OFFICIALS WOULD REFRAIN FROM ISSUING IMPROMPTU STATEMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY ( AS IN CASE OF DECEMBER STATEMENTS ON VIETNAM). HE ADDED THAT WHILE IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER COPENHAGEN WOULD STICK TO THIS MODE OF OPERATION, IT HAD BEEN APPROVED AT QUOTE HIGHEST LEVEL QUOTE OF DANISH GOVERNMENT.

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2. CONTINUING, BARTELS SAID THAT WITH VIETNAM HOPEFULLY AN ISSUE OF THE PAST, DENMARK COULD BE QUOTE COMPLETELY LOYAL QUOTE ALLY OF U. S. HOWEVER WHILE GOD RECOGNIZES U. S. AS LEADER OF WESTERN SECURITY POLICY, HE ADDED THAT TWO FACTORS SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND REGARDING U. S.- DANISH COOPERATION: (1) GREAT DISPARITY IN SIZE AND WEALTH BETWEEN U. S. AND DENMARK INEVITABLY MAKES FOR DIFFERENCE IN PERSPECTIVES AND (2) DENMARK IS A MORE QUOTE LIBERAL AND EXPERIMENTAL- MINDED QUOTE SOCIETY THAN IS U. S. GIVEN THESE DIFFERENCES, BARTELS EMPHASIZED, WE CANNOT EXPECT COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON ALL QUESTIONS.

3. STOESSEL REPLIED THAT USG UNDERSTANDS DANISH POSITION. WE WELCOME FACT THAT GOD HAS GONE THROUGH PRODUCTIVE PERIOD WHICH HAS ENABLED IT TO TAKE FRESH LOOK AT THE CONDUCT AND DIRECTION OF ITS FOREIGN POLICY. THE U. S., STOESSEL CONTINUED, HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT THERE COULD BE DIFFERENCES OF VIEWPOINT AMONG FRIENDLY NATIONS, AND WE HAVE SUPPORTED CONCEPT OF FREE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS AMONG ALLIES. HOWEVER, THE ADMINISTRATION, AND THE PRESIDENT PERSONALLY, ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE NATO ALLIANCE, AND THE FACT THAT SOME OF OUR ALLIES DID NOT SUPPORT US AT A CRUCIAL TIME WAS RESENTED PARTICULARLY AS WE WERE DEMONSTRATING OUR DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENTS -- A MATTER OF IMPORTANCE TO THE NATO ALLIES. WHILE WE TRUST THAT VIETNAM IS NOW BEHIND US, NEVERTHELESS WE WOULD HOPE THAT IN FUTURE OUR ALLIES WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE ALLIANCE AS DIFFERENCES ARISE.

4. STOESSEL ALSO EXPRESSED THE APPRECIATION OF THE USG AT THE DANISH DECISION TO GO ALONG WITH THE VISIT TO BARCELONA BY NAVOCFORMED ( STATE 044652) TO WHICH BARTELS REPLIED THAT GOD WAS PLEASED THAT USG VALUED THIS GESTURE ON PART OF DENMARK. ROGERS

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